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PART I

IMPORTANT GOVERNMENT ORDERS

DEVELOPMENT SECRETARIAT

Report on the Working of the Department of Industries and Commerce for the year ended 30th June 1939.

READ—

Report on the Working of the Department of Industries and Commerce in Mysore for the year ended 30th June 1939, received with letter No. C. 327—39-40, dated the 1st November 1939, from the Director of Industries and Commerce.

ORDER No. D. 4311-74—I. & C. 262-39-3, DATED BANGALORE, THE 25TH MARCH 1940.

Mr. M. S. Ramchendra Rao, B.A., continued to be in charge of the department during the year.

2. *Industrial Enterprises.*—The Mysore Glass and Enamel Works, Limited, a company floated during the year on a joint-stock basis for the manufacture of high class glass and enamelware, is an addition to the list of large industrial enterprises already started in the State under Government auspices. Steps were taken to float new joint-stock companies to operate the chrome tannery at Bangalore and the Match Factory at Shimoga. Two Government factories for the manufacture of paints and varnishes and agricultural implements were established at Mysore and Hassan, respectively. With the former, known as "The Lac and Paint Factory," was amalgamated the lac section of the Industrial and Testing Laboratory.

With a view to ensure better supervision of the Government and State-aided industrial concerns, the appointment of a Government Director was sanctioned with effect from 1st July 1939, and the work was redistributed between him and the Chairman, Mysore Iron and Steel Works, as follows :—

The Chairman, Mysore Iron and Steel Works :—

1. The Mysore Iron and Steel Works.
2. The Government Implements Factory.
3. The Mysore Paper Mills.
4. The Mysore Match Factory.

Government Director, Industrial Concerns :—

1. The Government Soap Factory.
2. The Silk Weaving Factory.
3. The Electric Factory.
4. The Porcelain Factory.
5. The Industrial and Testing Laboratory.
6. The Mysore Coffee Curing Works, Limited.
7. The Mysore Lamp Works, Limited.
8. The Mysore Stoneware, Pipes and Potteries, Limited.
9. The Mysore Chemicals and Fertilisers, Limited.

The working of the various Government industrial concerns was satisfactory. The sales to the public at the Industrial and Testing Laboratory increased by about 48 per cent and the manufacture of new products was under consideration. To meet the growing demand for bitumen emulsion, a third factory was established at Hassan with a capital investment of about Rs. 16,000.

Loans aggregating Rs. 22,500 were sanctioned for the establishment of industrial concerns, including village and cottage industries. Out of the loans already sanctioned, a sum of Rs. 30,450 was recovered, leaving a balance of Rs. 98,335 outstanding towards principal at the end of the year. The arrears are very heavy and the Director is requested to see that adequate steps are taken to reduce them.

3. *Industrial Education.*—Much progress was shown in the working of the Sri Chamarājendra Technical Institute and the various industrial schools. At the former, were manufactured two bronze statues of Sri Nataraja and Sri Govindaraja, for the Annamalai University.

The subjects taught in the nine industrial schools maintained by the department were carpentry, smithy, weaving, lacquerware and sandalwood carving, the object being to train artisans in useful handicrafts which can be carried on as cottage industries. Financial aid was also given to thirteen home industries classes organised by ladies' associations. With a view to helping the weavers to get doubling yarn of various colours, the Experimental and Research Section of the Government Weaving Institute designed and demonstrated successfully a doubling "charaka." In addition, the Institute undertook and completed the manufacture of curtain cloth (Bihar pattern) of 72" width. Towards the close of the year, the amalgamation of the Institute with the Sri Krishnarajendra Jubilee Technical Institute was sanctioned.

4. *Rural and Cottage Industries.*—The revival of old rural industries and the starting of new ones engaged the special attention of the department during the year. Surveys of the existing industries were undertaken and demonstrations of improved methods given in respect of about a dozen rural industries.

Hand-spinning, which is the chief subsidiary industry of the raiyat, received considerable attention through the ever-expanding activities of the Badanval Centre and its four branches. An idea of the valuable work done by this organisation may be gauged by the fact that whereas in 1927, when the centre was opened, there were only 1,000 spinners who produced 5,764 lb. of yarn and 7,765 yards of "Khadi" valued at Rs. 3,741, in the year under review there were 5,045 spinners who produced 59,837 lb. of yarn and 130,780 square yards of "Khadi" valued at Rs. 69,073. In addition, the three non-departmental centres produced "Khadi" valued at over Rs. 26,000. The wool-spinning branch of the Badanval Centre at Kolar has done much to resuscitate the "Kambli" or Blanket Weaving Industry in the Kolar District. An interesting feature of the hand-loom industry is the fillip given to it by the introduction of cheap electric power. There are at present about 800 power looms working in the State.

A beginning has also been made to use the Badanval Centre for the propagation and development of other rural and cottage industries, such as, leather work, paper making, mat weaving, pottery, etc. In order to ensure a continuity of development of rural and cottage industries, a three-year plan has been sanctioned, involving a total expenditure of Rs. 1,31,830 and providing for the development of important industries in forty-three centres spread over the whole State.

5. *Labour Welfare.*—During the year, the Board of Conciliation, which was concerned only with the settlement of disputes, the general welfare of labour being attended to by the Trade, Commerce and Labour Sub-Committee of the Board of Industries and Commerce, was replaced by the Labour Welfare Board, which was empowered to deal with all questions relating to industrial labour in the State.

Except for six labour disputes, all of short duration, the relations between the employers and the employees in the various industrial concerns were quite cordial. Considerable improvement was effected in the conditions of life of labourers in some of the more important factories.

There were 251 factories working in the State during the year, of which 44 were seasonal and the rest perennial, and the average daily number of operatives employed rose to 26,089 (25,526). There were 429 (237) accidents, of which six were fatal. While the technical inspectors of factories inspected 244 factories, the medical, sanitary and health officers, who are inspectors in regard to health and sanitation, inspected only 73. This is not satisfactory. Government would like to see these officers pay more attention to this important part of their work, as also the District Magistrates, who, Government regret to see, inspected only nine factories during the year.

Out of 213 cases dealt with by the Commissioners of Workmen's Compensation during the year, 193 were disposed of. A total sum of Rs. 64,160 was deposited for distribution, out of which the compensation paid to the dependants of the deceased and injured workmen, in non-fatal cases, amounted to Rs. 49,109. The question of further amending the Mysore Workmen's Compensation Act so as to bring it into conformity with the British Indian Law is under consideration.

6. *Weights and Measures*:—The administration of the Mysore Weights and Measures Act was transferred from the Revenue Department to the Department of Industries and Commerce with effect from 1st January 1939. The compulsory use of certified weights and measures is being extended gradually to important trade centres and at the end of the year there were thirty-two such centres in the State. The question of quickening the pace is under the consideration of the department, as the marketing surveys have revealed the fact that there is an urgent need for extending the use of standard weights and measures all over the State.

7. *Posts, Telegraphs and Wireless*:—Fourteen experimental Post Offices were opened during the year, bringing the total number of Post Offices in the State to 571. The number of Telegraph Offices remained the same as in the previous year, *viz.*, 94. An Act for the regulation of Wireless Telegraphy in the State, and the rules thereunder, were brought into force during the year. Nine hundred and eight (417) licences for working broadcast receiving sets, 5 for the erection and operation of wireless transmission stations (non-commercial fixed), 32 (13) dealers, 78 commercial, 37 demonstration and 4 non-dealers' possession licences were issued during the year.

8. *Marketing Survey*:—The marketing survey work conducted so far having proved very instructive and helpful in introducing reforms of a constructive character, the Mysore Agricultural Market Act was introduced during the year for the establishment of regulated markets for agricultural commodities in all the important trade centres of the State, beginning with the Davangere and Chitaldrug Towns. A bill for the grading and marking of agricultural produce was also under consideration.

9. *Commercial Intelligence and Publicity*:—In view of the increasing importance of road-borne traffic in the State, a scheme for the collection of road-borne trade statistics was sanctioned during the year.

As usual, one of the chief activities of the department was the collection and dissemination of information relating to trade and industry. Three hundred and seventy (215) such inquiries from all parts of India were dealt with during the year.

The department also participated in various exhibitions held in different parts of India, as a result of which the industrial products of the State received much publicity.

10. *Conclusion*:—Government are glad to note the good work in several directions done by the department during the year, under the guidance of the Director, Mr. M. S. Ramchendra Rao.

C. E. NORONHA,
Secretary to Government,
Development Department.

LAW SECRETARIAT

Reports on the working of the several Town and Minor Municipal Councils in the State for the year 1938-39.

READ—

The Reports on the Working of the several Town and Minor Municipal Councils in the State for the year 1938-39 and the reviews of the Deputy Commissioners of Districts thereon.

ORDER NO. L. 7968-81—ML. 88-39-17, DATED BANGALORE, THE 18—19TH MARCH 1940.

Recorded.

2. *Changes in the Limits, Management, etc., of Municipalities.*—There were 40 Town and 64 Minor Municipal Councils in the State as in the previous year. The boundaries of Dodballapur and Tirthahalli Municipalities were extended. The Sugar Factory area at Mandya was constituted into a separate Board called the Mysore Sugar Town Board and separate rules were issued for the administration of the area. The proposal to extend the boundary of Krishnarajpet so as to include Hosahalalu village within its area was under consideration and it has since been sanctioned. The municipalities of Channapatna, Mugur and Tirthahalli continued to be under Government management. The Honnali Minor Municipal Council which was under supersession was re-established during the year.

3. *Reconstitution of Municipal Councils.*—No general elections were held in any of the municipalities except in the Saklespur Town Municipality, and the Jagalur Minor Municipality where elections were confined to ten seats consequent on the setting aside by the Davangere Munsiff of the general elections held in the month of November 1936. The terms of most of the Town and Minor Municipal Councils that were to expire during the year were extended by one year, so that the changes contemplated in respect of the local bodies by the recommendations of the Mysore Reforms Committee might be given effect to. Casual vacancies in many of the municipal councils caused on account of resignations, etc., were duly filled up either by holding bye-elections or by nomination. As regards the offices of Vice-Presidents, fresh elections were held in the municipalities of Kunigal, Chitaldrug, Holalkere, Molakalmuru, Mandya and Malvalli and bye-elections in Birur, Belakavadi and Periyapatna Municipalities.

4. *Strength of Municipal Councils and Meetings.*—The total number of members of all the municipal councils on the last day of the year was 1,670, of whom 1,119 were elected, 312 nominated by Government and 239 *ex-officio* members. The municipal councils held 1,027 ordinary, 249 adjourned and 552 special meetings, the total number of meetings being 1,828. The municipal councils of Closepet, Narasimharajapura and Mudgere are stated to have held meetings below the prescribed minimum. The attendance of both the official and non-official members at the meetings of the municipal councils is reported to be fairly good, although the number of adjourned meetings is rather large. Government observe that there is scope for improvement in this direction.